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SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to...I want to thank Senator Chambers for putting up the amendment to give us a chance to talk about our concerns in this whole area and Senator Dwite Pedersen for his never-ending work and interest in trying to do something to improve our penal system in the state. About a year, a year and a half ago, I began to follow a case that came to my attention of a party that was incarcerated for a very serious crime. It was...it was not a crime of violence. It was...but someone was killed and it was the result of an alcohol related traffic accident. And this individual had been a supervisor in a fairly reputable, a very reputable company and had a very good work record and made a big mistake. And the particular sentencing judge sent him to prison for a pretty long time. He maintained a spotless record while he was in the penitentiary and attempted to participate in every alcohol and drug counseling activity that he could because, well, for one thing, that was appropriate but, secondly, he might be able to get work release if he completed those activities. Well, he could never get his counseling because he was always on a waiting list, and when he got to the point that he was about to get his counseling, he got moved so he couldn't participate in the counseling and further wouldn't be eligible for work release. So some family and friends collected some money and attempted to hire an outside counselor in hopes that that would meet the requirement for having counseling so he could be eligible for work release. And he eventually did receive this outside counseling. He was denied parole after this course of action, remained in prison, and as Senator Pedersen has described to you, is proceeding to jam his time. And I question, although punishment is appropriate for a serious act like this, and I would never say that it isn't, but there has been a lot of punishment here. And I'm not saying it's too much but this individual could support himself and could support the family while still paying a terrific price. And perhaps prison time was suitable, but there should have been a way for this individual to enter the workforce, pay for his way while still maintaining tight supervision and be on parole or supervised parole and that would have served the public's interest, it would have served the correctional institution's interest, in my view, and would have served our pocketbook very well. And I don't know how many cases there are like that, but I am